

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/783,797	PODESTA ET AL.	
	Examiner Jason M. Repko	Art Unit 2628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment dated 5/31/2006.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 4-21.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.
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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Applicant's arguments regarding the drawing objections have been considered and are persuasive. The outstanding objections to the drawings filed on 2/20/2004 are withdrawn, and the drawings are accepted.

Specification

2. In view of the amendment to the specification and the abstract submitted 5/31/2006, the outstanding objections to the specification are withdrawn.

Claim Objections

4. In view of the amendment to the claims submitted 5/31/2006, the outstanding objections to claims 1, 2 and 4 are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. In view of the amendment to the claims submitted 5/31/2006, the outstanding rejections of claims 1, 2 and 4 under 35 USC 112 second paragraph are withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1, 2, 4-21 are allowed.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

6. Claims 1, 2 and 4 contain allowable subject matter, as indicated in the Office Action dated 3/10/2006, and are allowable as these claims have been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112 second paragraph. Claims 5-8 are allowable as they depend from claim 1. Claims 9-12 are allowable as they depend from claim 4.

7. With regard to claim 13, U.S. Patent No. 6,115,051 to Simons et al shows a method and apparatus for defining a path between points for an animated object using a spline (*Figure 2a*), and reparameterizes the spline to obtain a number of advantages. However, this reparameterization does not include “directing the processor to rotate the first axes of the selected pose knots from a first state to a second state” and “directing the processor to determine from one or more selected pose knots, and the one or more selected timing knots, a visually exaggerated spline image that visually enhances anomalies associated with the segmented path of the spline image,” as recited in claim 13. U.S. Patent No. 5,317,682 to Luken Jr. discloses a method and apparatus for rendering splines created by specifying control points. However, Luken Jr. does not disclose “directing the processor to rotate the first axes of the selected pose knots from a first state to a second state” and “directing the processor to determine from one or more selected pose knots, and the one or more selected timing knots, a visually exaggerated spline image that visually enhances anomalies associated with the segmented path of the spline image,” as recited in claim 13. Claims 14-21 are allowable as they depend from claim 13.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Repko whose telephone number is 571-272-8624. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 am -5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Ulka Chauhan can be reached on 571-272-7782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JMR


ULKA CHAUHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER